Creation of a separate Customs Department.

87. *MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have considered the question of the creation of a separate Customs Department; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the result of the same?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It has been ordered that the proposal may lie over for the present.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know whether the Economic Development Board had recommended the creation of a separate Customs Department?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The Board suggested the appointment of an Assistant Excise Commissioner exclusively in charge of the Customs Department under the Excise Commissioner.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know whether such recommendations have ever been made either by the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee or the Banking Enquiry Committee?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I have no information.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know in answer to part (*b*) when this order was passed by the Government?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): 7th June 1935.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know the reason for passing this order?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Government are of the opinion that it is a very desirable reform and that it may be taken up later on.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether it is the policy of Government to take up desirable reforms later on and undesirable reforms much earlier? (*Laughter*).

PRESIDENT: I suppose the interpretation given by the member is that when it is a desirable reform Government intend to take it up. If it were otherwise, it would be not taken up but rejected off-hand.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): May I know why it is allowed to lie over for the present?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): There may be several desirable reforms which Government may not be able to take up all at once. One by one the schemes may be taken up.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): May I know why this particular question is allowed to lie over?

PRESIDENT: The member has replied that there may be very many desirable reforms and that one by one they may be tackled.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly